



2001 Wetlands Reserve Program

Customer Focus—



BEFORE



AFTER

More than 100,000 cubic yards of earth were moved and shaped to create a mix of wetland and riparian areas with shallows, islands, deep-water channels, and shallow streams over approximately 75 acres.

This wildlife sanctuary will be maintained and managed to provide wetland and riparian functions and values for public viewing, education, and enjoyment.

Colorado Summary

Overview

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program that provides technical and financial assistance to eligible landowners to restore, enhance, and protect wetlands. Landowners have the option of enrolling lands through permanent easements, 30-year easements, and restoration cost-share agreements.

Colorado has growing interest in WRP, and has participated in the program since 1995. Since 1995 the program has provided significant partnering opportunities to help stretch NRCS dollars and staff. Key partners include U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited, and Colorado Division of Wildlife. The program has been used to improve a variety of wildlife habitats with emphasis towards declining wetland species such as Prebles Jumping Mouse and the Leopard Frog. The program is also being used to improve a variety of habitat types needed for migratory birds.

Accomplishments

There were 11 participants in 2001 approved for funding on 1,310 acres. In 2001, there were five perpetual easements, five 30-year easements, and one restoration cost-share agreement. There were 643 acres of wetlands restored during 2001.

There are currently 11 unfunded applications involving over 5,000 acres.

State contact

Stuart Simpson, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, 655 Parfet Street, Room E200C, Lakewood, CO 80215-5517. Phone-720-544-2804.